PATENT
ENDOV-55672

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Examiner: TBD
Octavian Iancea, et al.	Art Unit: TBD
Serial No. 10/090,472	
Filing Date: March 4, 2002	**Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8** I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on March 27, 2002
For: MODULAR GRAFT COMPONENT JUNCTIONS	John V. Hanley, Reg. No 38,171
Date: March 27, 2002	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Before action, please amend the captioned application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

At page 27, line 12, please substitute the following paragraph:

FIGS. 16A and 16B show a limb component 780 with a self - expanding internal proximal stent 84 attached to the proximal end 81 of the graft material 83 with sutures 88 at only the most proximal and most distal ends of the stent such that an additional layer of graft material is formed where the stent has its widest opening between struts. This is the area most susceptible to the "parachute" effect caused when blood leaks between the joint formed between a proximal limb stent and main body component limb support portion distal stent, whereby the blood collects in the largest graft - to - graft area in the frame stent openings and fills like a parachute.

The additional graft material in this area resists the tendency of blood to collect. The additional area of graft material may be formed by attaching the most proximal or most distal end of the stent to the graft material with sutures and pulling the graft material outside itself to form an overlapping area 100 before attaching the other end of the stent to the graft material, thereby forming a fold of graft material around the circumference of the graft material which traverses the widest area between stent struts. It is contemplated that an additional area of graft material may also be utilized for the main body component limb support portion distal stent or for any type of vessel repair the requires an implant seal.

REMARKS

This paper operates to amend the specification to correct an error. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the change made to the specification. The attached page is captioned "**Version With Markings To Show Changes Made**".

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP

By: _____
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Version With Markings to Show Changes Made

IN THE SPECIFICATION

FIGS. 16A and 16B show a limb component 780 with a self - expanding internal proximal stent 84 attached to the proximal end 81 of the graft material 83 with sutures 88 at only the most proximal and most distal ends of the stent such that an additional layer of graft material is formed where the stent has its widest opening between struts. This is the area most susceptible to the "parachute" effect caused when blood leaks between the joint formed between a proximal limb stent and main body component limb support portion distal stent, whereby the blood collects in the largest graft - to - graft area in the frame stent openings and fills like a parachute. The additional graft material in this area resists the tendency of blood to collect. The additional area of graft material may be formed by attaching the most proximal or most distal end of the stent to the graft material with sutures and pulling the graft material [inside] outside itself to form an overlapping area 100 before attaching the other end of the stent to the graft material, thereby forming a fold of graft material around the circumference of the graft material which traverses the widest area between stent struts. It is contemplated that an additional area of graft material may also be utilized for the main body component limb support portion distal stent or for any type of vessel repair the requires an implant seal.